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MAY 19 1922

✓ "THE CURSE OF DRINK" ✓

Photoplay in 6 reels ✓

✓ From the play by Charles E. Blaney ✓

Adapted and directed by Harry O. Hoyt ✓

Author of the photoplay (under Sec. 62)
Export & Import Film Company of the U. S. ✓

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EXPORT & IMPORT FILM CO., INC.
729 SEVENTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, U. S. A.

Synopsis

"THE CURSE OF DRINK"

MAY 19 1922

In the little town of Collinsville the Sanfords had made their home. A railroad junction, Collinsville had become a busy little industrial center and was inhabited by typical small-town American folk. For two generations the Sanfords had drawn their living from the railroad.

Big "Bill" Sanford for years had sat at the throttle of the steam giants as they sped over the steel ribbons stretching far over the mid-western plains. Big Bill had found happiness in marriage, and had been blessed with three children. There was Ruth, his eldest child, who was employed as secretary to President Rand of the C.D.&Q., and Margaret, and then little Betty, his most beloved, the shining light of his life.

The years had not gone well with Sanford. Formerly the most trusted man on the C.D.&Q., he had lately fallen victim to drink and had gradually lost prestige until now he was pilot of an ignominious switch engine! Mother Sanford had spent days and nights of torture trying to fight the evil which was ruining the happiness of the little family, and at the time the story opens had just about succeeded. Big Bill was at last regaining his foothold on life and Ruth had already heard rumors of his re-promotion.

Ruth was happy. Sunday had come and Mother Sanford was all abustle in the kitchen. And young Rand, the railroad president's son, who had chosen to work his way up from the ranks, was to be her guest -- Rand, her sweetheart.

Sam Handy, division superintendent of the C.D.&Q. and secretly half owner of Flarty's den, Collinsville's secret whiskey joint, called to see Big Bill, With an excuse that he was planning for Sanford's promotion Ruth sent him up to see her dad. Handy displayed a bottle of whiskey and Bill finally fell victim to the lure.

Downstairs all was ready for the dinner. Rand came. Margaret's beau also called. Handy surreptitiously crept down the stairs and out of the house. Ma Sanford called her husband. Then she went up to his room. She was horror stricken to find him drunk again. Ruth followed her. When she realized what had happened, in fear of disgrace before Rand, she locked her father in the room. When she returned to the dinner table she made the excuse that her dad was ill.

But sounds from above soon disproved this. With a crash of breaking furniture Sanford smashed through the door. Then the reeling man came down the stairs to the dining room.

Try as she would Ruth could not prevent a scene. Sanford vented his fury on young Rand. Rand, to save Ruth's feelings, took her outside and asked her to take a ride with him. But the Sunday she had looked forward to so brightly had become a blot of gloom for her. Little Betty led her raving father upstairs again. Betty was the only one who could calm him -- Betty his little darling.

Handy desired Ruth's hand. He was willing to go to any means to get it. By destroying her father the sailing would be clearer for him. And after the father - he would turn

the tables against young Rand. He went to the elder Rand at once. He told him of Sanford's new drinking spell. He advised dismissal. Then he mentioned the son. Young Rand was getting familiar with Ruth - and she a drunkard's daughter!

Rand was furious. When Miss Sanford arrived he urged her to forget his son. The marriage would ruin his life he said. Ruth's pride flared up and she resigned her position. On the way out of the office she met Handy. Handy tried to sympathize with her. Ruth's womanly intuition scented danger. She repulsed his advances. Then she went home.

Sanford, waking late from another drinking spell, met her as he was leaving the house. At his question as to what she was doing home at that hour Ruth's temper got the best of her. The drunken man who was taking all that was worthwhile out of her life stood before her. For the moment she hated him - the drunkard - her father! She told him of the curse he had put upon her - her resignation, her disgrace before her sweetheart and the charge of the elder Rand.

Sanford blanched as his daughter cried out her fury. He swore to get Rand for his words. He threw his wife aside as she tried to stop him, and as he did so little Betty was pushed down the stairs. The baby fell awkwardly to the bottom. The mother screamed and rushed down the steps to its side.

"You've killed her!" she cried to Big Bill. Sanford stopped aghast. Betty, his little sweetheart, dead?

He rushed out of the house just as Betty opened

her eyes and smiled at Ruth. "Where's Daddy?" was her first question.

Sanford, crazed, despite his lust for revenge stopped off at Flartey's saloon. There he became sodden drunk again. From the crowd that clustered about the bar strange words came to his ears. Rand was having trouble. His brother had died. A special train was being made up for him and was to leave at seven. A new engineer was to take it out. Sanford was untrustworthy for such a ride!

Big "Bill" made a leap for the door and rushed for the railroad yard. He made for the track where the special stood. He saw Rand climb aboard. Then he ran for the cab. Handy intercepted him. But the schemer was thrown aside. Big Bill jumped aboard and before the surprised engineer could understand what was happening he was on all fours by the roadside. The throttle went almost wide open.

"Ride him!" sneered Sanford. "I'll ride him!" And the special went whistling into the gathering gloom.

Ruth had followed her father from the house. She rushed to see young Rand to tell him what had happened. As they stood before the telegraph office word came in that the bridge at Beaver's Creek was down.

The same thought came to young Rand and Ruth. With Sanford at the throttle it meant death for the two men!

Sanford's switch engine was standing on the siding. The pair rushed for it. In another minute the

race against death was on. Young Rand, at the throttle, drove the ponderous engine along the rails as fast as steam could take it. Slowly, so slowly, they overtook the special.

Ruth climbed out on the cow-catcher. The coach of the speeding special came nearer and nearer. Faster and faster Rand's engine approached it. Soon the rear platform of coach was almost within reach.

Ruth poised for the jump. A slip meant sure death. But unless Sanford could be warned it meant death for him and Rand. Ruth leaped.

She landed lightly on the platform of the coach. The door was locked. She climbed to the roof and ran along the car to the engine.

Sanford thought he was dreaming when she dropped into his cab. But the girl brought him to. She closed the throttle, shouting out the danger at the same time. The brakes screeched. The train came to a stop. Three feet ahead the rails fell away. They had literally dashed to the brink of death and then stopped.

President Rand was talking to the girl. "Ruth", he said, "I almost wrecked your life and now you've saved mine. The truth has shown me the light. I shall be proud to have you as a daughter!"

Then he went up to Sanford and shook his hand. And Big Bill, realizing the error of his ways, wept.

Ruth looked up at her father. Pity overcame her. Pity and love. "Daddy", she cried, "Betty is alive -- she's calling for you."

"And I'm waiting for you!" broke in young Rand as he took her hand.

Export & Import Film Co. Inc.

MAY 19 1922

~~Joseph M. Shear~~

presents

"THE CURSE OF DRINK" from the famous play
by Chas. E. Blaney.

Produced by ~~WILLIAM DEAN MURPHY~~ ~~JOSEPH M. SHEAR~~ Jos. M. Shear
Copyrighted 1922, by Export & Import Film Co. Inc.
Adapted and Directed by Harry O. Hoyt.

Photography by

Harry Fishbeck

Art Director

Clark Robinson

Titles by

Dimitri Stephen

Art Titles by

Warren A. Newcombe &
Capt. F.C. Nims

1. Here lived the Sanfords--in the little railroad town of Collinsville
2. Just an average American home; with its joys and sorrows, hopes and fears--its shadows lurking close when the sun shines brightest.
3. Came one Sunday morning and with it the simple meal.
4. ---but to Ruth Sanford it seemed the most wonderful day of her life for He was coming to dinner!
Ruth Sanford.....Marguerite Clayton
5. Beek Insert.

Correct Table Service by

6. Big "Bill" Sanford, easy-going and likeable who might still be the most trusted engineer on C.D. & Q. but for one fatal weakness.
Bill Sanford.....Harry Morey
7. With him, Mother Sanford survived better memories of days when the drink-brute ruled her husband.
Mother Sanford.....Alice May
8. On Betty, the youngest of three, now was the father-love lavished.
Betty.....Miriam Battista
9. "Betty!"

10. The Sanfords' second child was the ever blushing Margaret.
Margaret Sanford.....June Fuller

11. Just around the corner from the Sanfords'.
12. When Prohibition closed Collinsville's dens of vice Flartey's notorious "roundhouse" saloon blossomed forth as an innocent stationery store---

13. ---but under cover Flartey plies his trade for those poor souls whose craving knows no bounds.
Ben Flartey.....George Fawcett

14. Sam Handy was Division Superintendent of the C.D. & Q. but otherwise shared Flartey's profits as silent partner.
Sam Handy.....Brinsley Shaw

15. "Listen, mischief, we borrowed these spoons from Mrs. Lovitt but you mustn't tell anybody!"

16. "Say Ma, if I wear this cuff on my neck I'll choke with the soup!"

17. "Mr. Handy, father was out late again last night--I--I'm afraid--"

18. He promises his help but secretly holds to his determination to get Ruth in his power through her father's weakness.

END OF PART 1
PART 2

19. "Where's the funeral, Bill?"
20. "Oh, this outfit's Ruth's idea--young Rand's coming to dinner."
21. "Well, how about a little drink?"
22. "Help yourself, but I'm through!"
23. "That's what I was once--the best engineer on the road--"
24. "I--and now I'm running a dam' switch-engine."
25. "Well, give me a glass, perhaps it's best--if you can't handle the stuff."
26. So Sanford's will breaks---
27. ---and pleads a "little" for his "nerves".
28. "Sure, Bill, go as far as you like."
29. John T. Rand, Vice-President of the C.B. & Q. in whose office Ruth Sanford works as stenographer.
John T. Rand.....Edmund Breece
30. Like his father, Harry Rand chose to rise from the ranks.
Harry Rand.....Albert Barrett
31. "You know Harry's starting at the bottom--fixing engines now."
32. "I'm sorry--I've a dinner engagement."
33. "For your sake I begged him to stop."
34. "Oh! it's terrible--it makes him a perfect fiend!"
35. Freddy Hicks was Margaret Sanford's beau.
36. "Eat cake, will you! Not a pound have you lost in a month!"
37. Book Insert:

Eat And Grow Thin

The Mahdah Menus

Vance Thompson

38. "Little Fido's been waiting all morning to give you a kiss!"
39. "Sit right down, Mr. Rand, I'll serve dinner."
40. "No, Mrs. Sanford, you sit down--I'll do the serving."
41. "Well--excuse me then, and I'll call father."
42. "I'm aw-right!"
43. "Father, for Ruth's sake please lie down!"

END OF PART 2
PART 3

44. "We borrowed these spoons from Mrs. Lovitt, but Ruth says I mustn't tell."

4. "I'm sorry--Mr. Sanford is ill. He--he--won't be down."
46. "Father--you can't come down--I won't be humiliated, I tell you!"
47. "What's--s'matter--I'm not drunk."
48. "Never fel' bet-ter, and I'm goin' down!"
49. "Father's a little better--but won't be down."
50. "So! You're ashamed of me?"
51. "I'm not fit comp'ny for your swell friends?"
52. "Well, he's not too good to eat my food!"
53. "What's the likes of you hangin' 'round my girl!"
54. "Father, don't you dare!"
55. "Get Out!"
56. "Bill Sanford, don't go too far!"
57. "Come Ruth, let's take a ride and forget all about it."
58. "I can't--when father's this way it just spoils--everything!"
59. "You're to blame for all this--"
60. "Please, Daddy--you make me so afraid!"
61. "Never mind, it's my old man all over again."
62. "You've been a naughty, naughty boy, Daddy."

END OF PART 3
PART 4

63. Cautiously, Handy reveals to Rand the growing intimacy of Harry and Ruth--
64. "--and your stenographer and Harry don't kind of match up."
65. "I hear you're chasing around with my stenographer."
66. "Well it's got to stop!"
67. "Why father--I--love Ruth Sanford."
68. "Yes--and I'll marry her--if she'll have me!"
69. "Marry her? You fool--!"
70. "I'm my own boss--!"
71. "Why, her father is a drunkard!"
72. "I'm not marrying her father."
73. "Marry her--and you'll never set foot in my house again!"
74. "Someone told Mr. Rand of your father's--er--drinking, and he told me to fire him."
75. "But for your sake I told Rand it's not true."
76. "Oh, Mr. Handy, how can we ever thank you enough."
77. "You know I'd do anything for you--Ruth!"

78. Monday finds Ruth still thinking of yesterday's grief.
79. "I thought I'd drop in before going to work--I was worried."
80. "Handy, see that my son gets this telegram at once."
81. "I believe he's in your office now."
82. "Read this--your uncle is desperately ill. I'm going to him by special train tonight."
83. "Oh! I'm sorry about your uncle."
84. "Don't worry.. Everything will be alright."
85. "Miss Sanford--let us be frank--this affair between you and my son must stop."
86. "--he could never marry into your family-- It would ~~ruin~~ ruin his career!"
87. "Then--I--I resign--"
88. "I cannot stay here and keep my self-respect!"
89. "I didn't want to leave--I had to!"
90. "You wouldn't object if it was young Rand!"

22x

END OF PART 4
PART 5

91. Heartbroken, only wishing to hide her grief, Ruth sought the comforting arms of one who always understood.
92. "What's she doing here?"
93. "Resigned."
94. "What for?"
95. "HEHEHE Because I couldn't stay and keep my self-respect!--Because I've got a drunken father! That's why!--Because Mr. Rand doesn't think me fit to marry his son."
96. "Did Rand say that?"
97. "Well, he can't get away with that--!"
98. "Yes--I'm going to work--when I get good and ready!"
99. "Aw--Let Rand wait, I ain't his slave."
100. "He'd better not fire me--if he does--"
101. "Here Jones--take Sanford's engine."
102. "Don't blame me--Rand said you're through!"
103. "Well, Rand's got another think coming."
104. Whom the Gods would destroy they first make--drink.
105. "I am taking Rand out on a special--his brother's sick."
106. "When's that special pulling out?"
107. "Seven o'clock."
108. Crazy by drink, Sanford plans revenge.
109. "Where are you going?"

110. "I'm going to fix Rand."
111. "Oh, my God! She's dead!"
112. "You murderer! You drunkard! Don't touch her with your vile hands!"
113. "For years your drunkenness has cursed us all--and now you've killed your own flesh and blood!"
114. "Mamma! Mamma!"
115. "Where is my daddy?"

END OF REEL 5
REEL 6

116. Sanford hastens on his mission of destruction.
117. "You must save your father--dad's driving the special and he's driving to kill!"
118. "For God's sake stop all trains! The bridge at Beaver Creek's washed out!"
119. "Ruth--don't go! It's sure death! The bridge is down at Beaver Creek!"
120. Mother Sanford's anxiety sent Freddy and Margaret in search of her husband.
121. "I am looking for Mr. Sanford."
122. "Say, if you're going to arrest me get him, too--he's my partner."
123. "Oh, Freddy, I'm so proud of you!"
124. Then began the race to save two innocent lives.
125. Onward they sped--headed for death!
126. Onward they sped--to avoid death!
127. "Open the throttle wide! We must catch them before they reach the bridge!"
128. "Faster--faster!"
129.. "I'll write him--"
130. "God help us; they'll be at the bridge in another minute."
131. "Father, Betty is alive--she's calling for you."
132. Mr. Rand, you are going to learn the truth.
133. "Ruth, I almost wrecked your life and now you've saved mine. The truth has shown me the light. I shall be proud to have you as a daughter."
134. --and when a strong man weeps His soul is unlocked for kindlier deeds.

THE END.

LAW OFFICES
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JENIFER BUILDING
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MAY 19 1922

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Washington, D. C.

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Export & Import Film Company

THE CURSE OF DRINK (6 reels)

Respectfully,

FULTON BRYLAWSKI

The Export & Import Film Company
hereby acknowledges the receipt of two copies each of the
motion picture films deposited and registered in the
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<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of Deposit</u>	<u>Registration</u>
THE CURSE OF DRINK	5/19/22	L: ©CL 17894

1/2 Copies Returned
MAY 26 1922

Delivered in person

The return of the above copies was requested by the said company, by its agent and attorney, on the 19th day of May, 1922, and the said Fulton Brylawski for himself and as the duly authorized agent and attorney of the said company, hereby acknowledges the delivery to him of said copies, and the receipt thereof.

MAY 26 1922

★ O.K.-F.G.P.

Fulton Brylawski

*Recd
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T.B.*

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